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# FACSIMILE

Date: November 13, 2002  
Number of pages  
including cover sheet: 8

To:	<b>Tech Center 3700</b> <b>USPTO</b>
Your Ref: 09/986,346 Phone: Fax No. 703-872-9302	

From:	<b>Karl G. Hanson</b>
Our Ref: 54135US011 Phone: (651) 736-7776 Fax No. (651) 736-3833	

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**GROUP 3700**

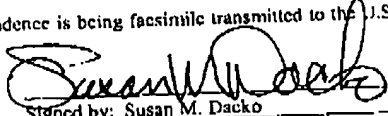
<b>Remarks:</b>
Attached are the following:
1. Petition to Make Special (in duplicate); and
2. Copy of U.S. Patent 6,047,698

Patent  
Case No.: 54135US011

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

First Named Inventor: BOWERS, JOHN L.  
Application No.: 09/986346 Group Art Unit: 3753  
Filed: November 8, 2001 Examiner:  
Title: UNI-DIRECTIONAL FLUID VALVE

**STATUS INQUIRY**

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION	
To Fax No.: 703-872-9302	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:	
November 13, 2002	
Date	Signed by: Susan M. Dacko

*See Petition for Part 12*  
Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

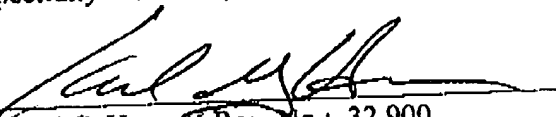
A request is made for the status of the above-identified application. An Office Action has yet to be issued for this case.

Respectfully submitted,

November 13, 2002

Date

By:

  
Karl G. Hanson, Reg. No.: 32,900  
Telephone No.: 651-736-7776

Office of Intellectual Property Counsel  
3M Innovative Properties Company  
P.O. Box 33427  
St. Paul, MN 55133-3427  
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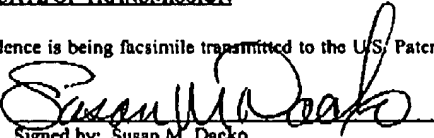
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PETITION TO MAKE SPECIAL

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

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Dear Sir:

In accordance with the terms of Section 708.02 of the Manual Of Patent Examining Procedure and 37 CFR § 1.102, applicants petition to advance the examination of this application out of turn. Applicants request that this Petition be granted because of an actual infringement of the claims that are pending in this case. In furtherance of the Petition, the undersigned attorney hereby alleges that there is an infringing device product that is actually on the market and that a rigid comparison of the alleged infringing device with the claims of the application has been made. Applicants' attorney is of the view that some of the claims are unquestionably infringed. Applicants' attorney also has good knowledge of the pertinent prior art. Attached is a copy of U.S. Patent 6,047,698 which, is deemed to most closely represent the subject matter encompassed by the claims.

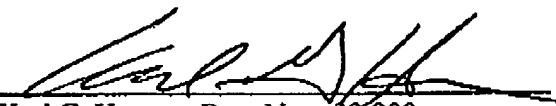
Please charge the \$130 fee for this petition under 37 CFR § 1.17(h) to Deposit Account No. 13-3723.

Respectfully submitted,

November 13, 2002

Date

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Karl G. Hanson, Reg. No.: 32,900  
Telephone No.: 651-736-7776

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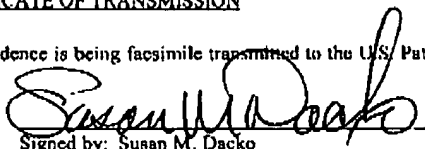
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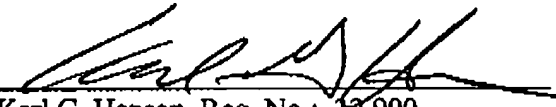
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